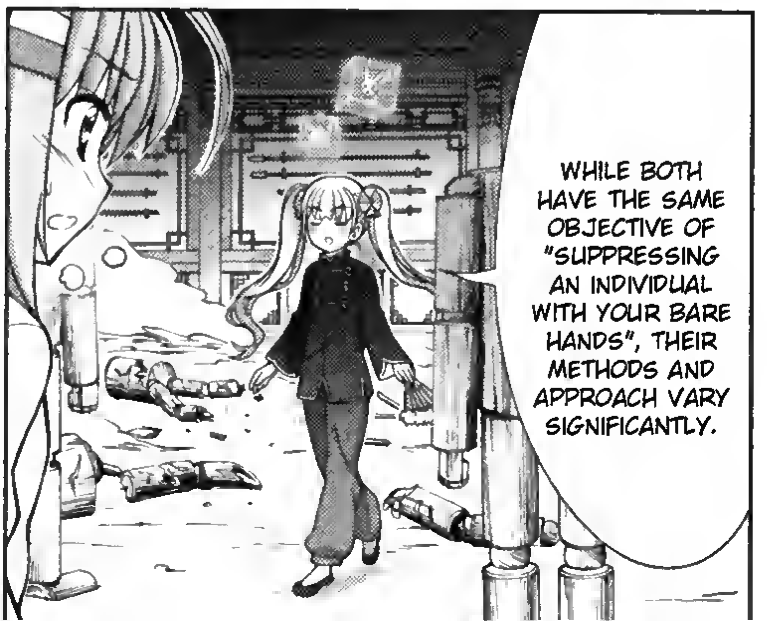
LUFEN'S TRADITIONAL ART OF SELF-DEFENSE... OR "WUSHU" AS IT'S MORE COMMONLY KNOWN IN OUR LANGUAGE
Memory:74

THE TRADITIONAL MARTIAL ARTS THAT WE STUDY AND THE MODERN MARTIAL ARTS STUDIED BY ALL OF YOU.
HAA
HAH
HAA
HAA..

I KNOW, RIGHT~
AND I FIND THOSE DIFFERENCES QUITE FASCINATING.


WHILE BOTH HAVE THE SAME OBJECTIVE OF "SUPPRESSING AN INDIVIDUAL WITH YOUR BARE HANDS", THEIR METHODS AND APPROACH VARY SIGNIFICANTLY.

YOU REALIZE YOU CAN CONTINUE YOUR ASSAULT WHILE WE CONVERSE, YES?
OH! RIGHT, RIGHT.
ぱら
UGH
AS YOU ARE NOW, I CAN DEFINITELY HANDLE THE TWO OF YOU AND TALKING AT THE SAME TIME~
LET'S GO, VIVIO-SAN!
YOU GOT IT, MIURA-SAN!

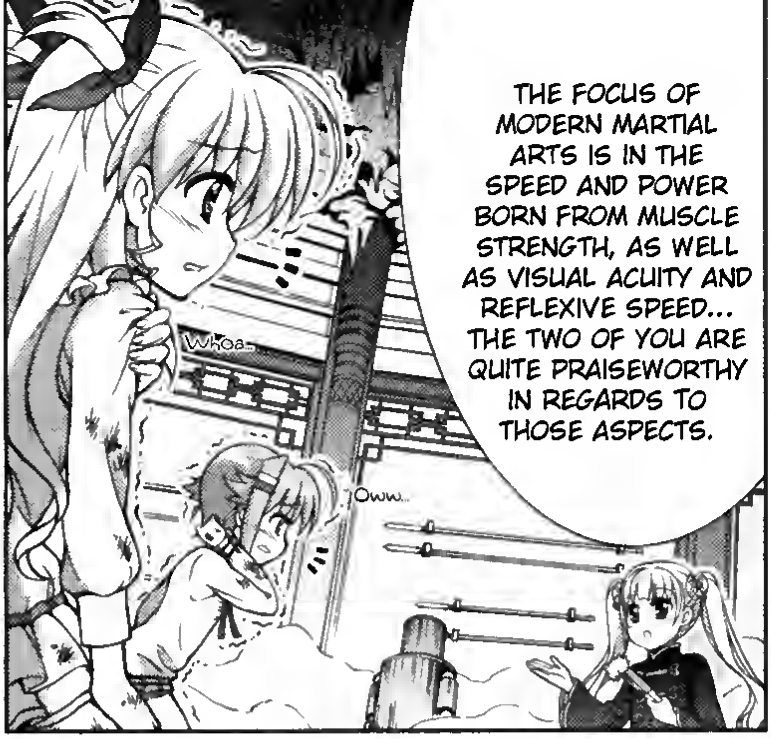
Memory;74

★ Skill and Power ★

TEEEH!

AWA-
WAH!
WHOOPS!

HOH!
AND THERE!
HAWA-WAA~!
VIVIO-SAN!
OH MY. A SLIP OF THE TONGUE. PERHAPS WE CAN'T HOLD THIS DISCUSSION IN TANDEM AFTER ALL.

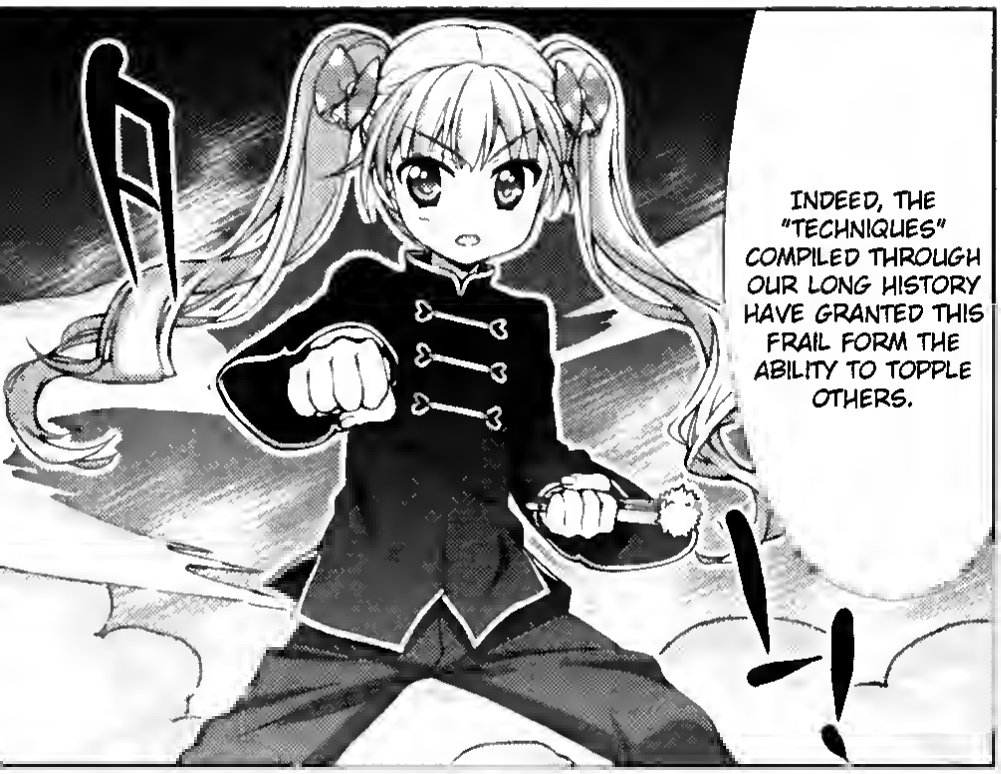

THE FOCUS OF MODERN MARTIAL ARTS IS IN THE SPEED AND POWER BORN FROM MUSCLE STRENGTH, AS WELL AS VISUAL ACUITY AND REFLEXIVE SPEED... THE TWO OF YOU ARE QUITE PRAISEWORTHY IN REGARDS TO THOSE ASPECTS.
Whoa...
Own...

IN THAT CASE, WE'LL HOLD A BIT OF A LECTURE WHILE THE TWO OF YOU TAKE A BREAK.

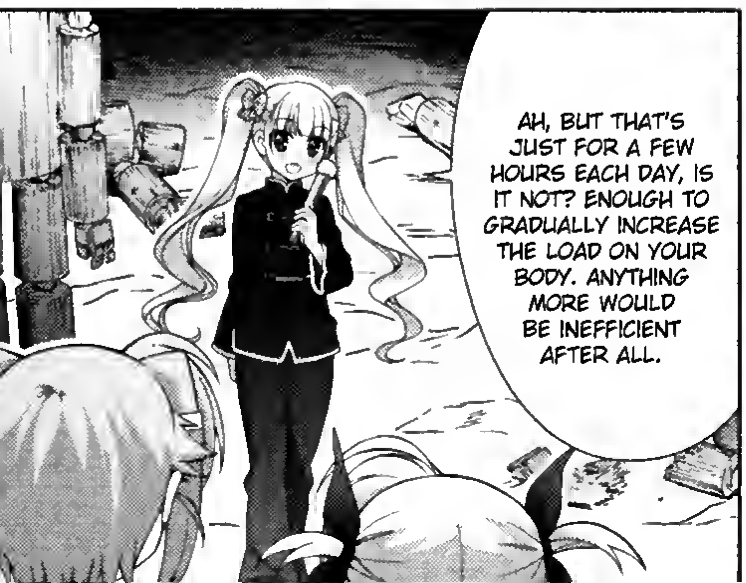
IN PARTICULAR, CHALLENGER RINALDI'S PHYSICAL ACUITY AND CHALLENGER VIVIO'S SPEED ARE SPLENDID.

UUM...?
AND YET, THE TWO OF YOU THAT SHOULD BE SO PHYSICALLY SUPERIOR TO ONE SUCH AS MYSELF CANNOT SEEM TO LAND A BLOW... AND WHY MIGHT THAT BE?

THAT'S BECAUSE THOSE OF US IN THE WORLD OF LUFEN'S MARTIAL ARTS USE "TECHNIQUES" THAT DON'T RELY ON OUR MUSCLE STRENGTH OR REFLEX NERVES.


INDEED, THE "TECHNIQUES" COMPILED THROUGH OUR LONG HISTORY HAVE GRANTED THIS FRAIL FORM THE ABILITY TO TOPPLE OTHERS.

A PART OF THAT IS THE APPLICATION OF "JIN" THAT YEN'S GROUP IS CONTINUING TO DRILL WITH.
YEAH!


AH, BUT THAT'S JUST FOR A FEW HOURS EACH DAY, IS IT NOT? ENOUGH TO GRADUALLY INCREASE THE LOAD ON YOUR BODY. ANYTHING MORE WOULD BE INEFFICIENT AFTER ALL.

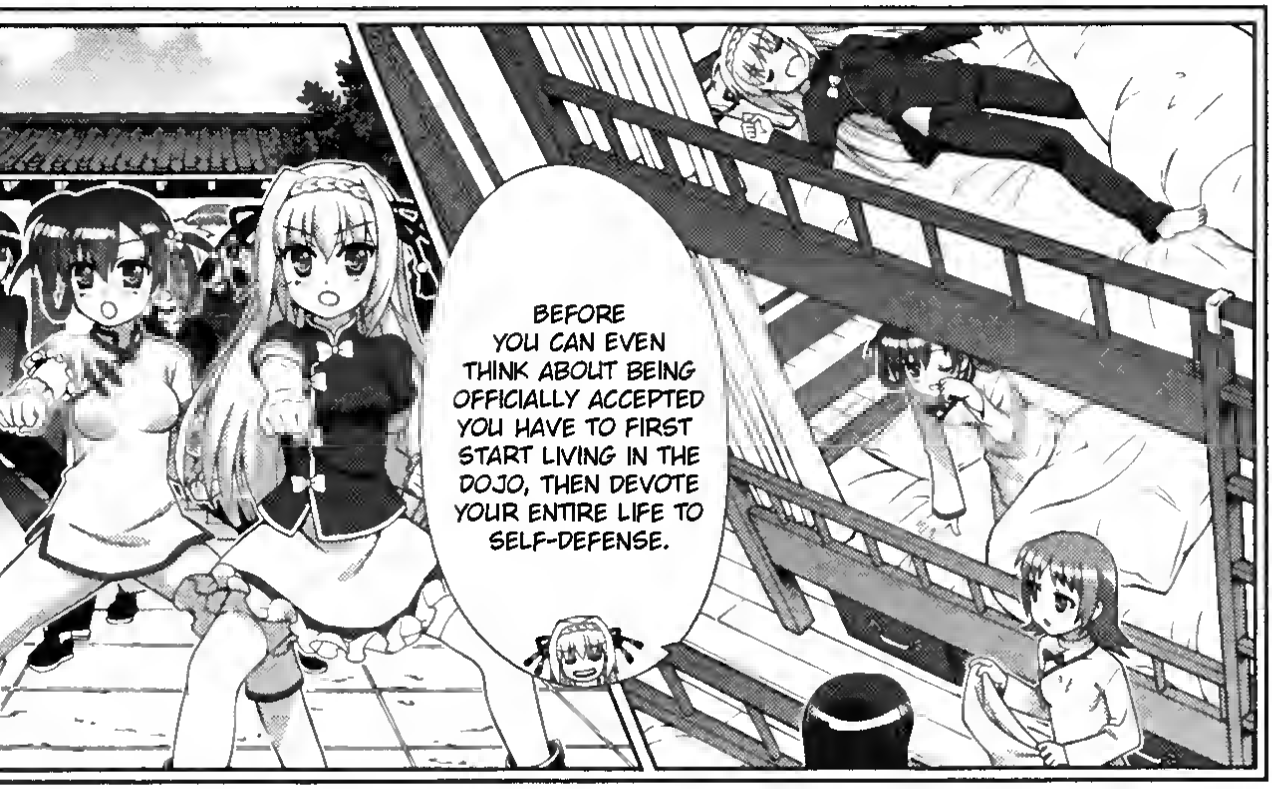
YEAH~...
IF THIS IS ABOUT REFINING OUR TECHNIQUES, THEN I THINK WE'VE ALREADY DONE QUITE A BIT OF THAT OURSELVES...

BUT TRADITIONAL MARTIAL ARTS ARE DIFFERENT.
YOU SLEEP YOUR SELF-DEFENSE. YOU STAND, SIT, AND EAT YOUR SELF-DEFENSE. THE WAY OF YOUR SELF-DEFENSE MOVES YOU, STOPS YOU, AND IS EVERYTHING YOU SEE.
YOUR SELF-DEFENSE ACCOMPANIES YOU THROUGHOUT YOUR ENTIRE EVERYDAY LIFE.
YOUR DAYS ARE SPENT LIKE A FISH SWIMMING THROUGH WATER, LIKE THE MIGRATORY BIRD THAT SPENDS EVERY WAKING MOMENT SOARING THE SKY.
LEARNING AS YOU FLOW THROUGH THE WINDING ROAD OF "FORMS" GATHERED BY OUR PREDECESSORS OVER THEIR LONG HISTORY.

SO THAT WHEN THE TIME COMES TO FACE OFF WITH ANOTHER, YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR OPPONENT WILL DO.
YOU CONTINUE TO FORGE YOURSELF IN THIS MANNER...
WHAT YOUR OPPONENT IS CAPABLE OF, WHERE THE GAPS IN THEIR DEFENSES ARE... THE TIMING OF THEIR MOVEMENTS.
AND SO YOU CAN EVENTUALLY SENSE ALL THAT INFORMATION.
Ouch~!!

"DODGE THE MOVE THEY WERE PREPARING BEFORE IT EVEN HAPPENS" AND "STRIKE IN A PLACE GUARANTEED TO HIT, WITH A TIMING GUARANTEED TO LAND."
BEFORE YOUR OPPONENT MAKES THEIR MOVE, YOU CHOOSE THE OPTIMUM STANCE...
EVERYTHING YOU'VE SEEN ME DO BOILS DOWN TO THESE TWO SIMPLE THINGS.
I JUST CAN'T ACCEPT THAT THAT'S ALL IT IS!
UH, HUU~H...? I GET THE PRINCIPLE BEHIND IT, BUT SOMEHOW...

WELL, TO ADD MY OWN TWO CENTS... THIS IS PROBABLY ONE REASON WHY LUFEN MARTIAL ARTS HAVEN'T REALLY SPREAD. THE HURDLE SET BY THE TRAINING SYSTEM IS JUST TOO HIGH~
YOU AND LADY RIO SAY THAT A LOT.
PERHAPS THAT'S SIMPLY THE DISPARITY BETWEEN MODERN AND TRADITIONAL MARTIAL ARTS~


BEFORE YOU CAN EVEN THINK ABOUT BEING OFFICIALLY ACCEPTED YOU HAVE TO FIRST START LIVING IN THE DOJO, THEN DEVOTE YOUR ENTIRE LIFE TO SELF-DEFENSE.

AND THEN WE'VE GOT LADIES LIKE HER WITH A PRIVATE TUTOR AND BUTLER SO THAT SHE NEVER EVEN NEEDS TO LEAVE THE DOJO.
WELL, I AM THE HEIRESS AFTER ALL.
EVEN RIO STUDIED THERE UNTIL THE SPRING OF HER SECOND YEAR.
YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE THE LUXURY OF GOING TO SCHOOL... WE'RE STILL FINE BECAUSE WE HAVE A SCHOOL HERE IN THE DOJO, BUT...

WHETHER YOU'RE WEAK OR STRONG ISN'T DECIDED BY THE SCHOOL, BUT THE USER, RIGHT?
THIS ISN'T A DISCUSSION ABOUT WHETHER TRADITIONAL OR MODERN MARTIAL ARTS OUTSTRIPS THE OTHER.
ER... WE'VE GOTTEN A BIT OFF-TOPIC HERE...
WHAT I WISHED TO IMPART TO THE TWO OF YOU IS THAT THE "MARTIAL ARTS" THAT I USE, THE FIST OF THE LUSTROUS HUANG, IS NO EXCEPTION. AND...
DURING YOUR STAY HERE IN LUFEN, I HOPE TO DEVELOP MY MARTIAL ARTS MORE AND MORE.

AFTER ALL, THE APPEARANCE OF MORE STRONG KIDS IN THE SAME GENERATION IS MORE EXCITING THAN ANYTHING ELSE!
!!
!
Lo

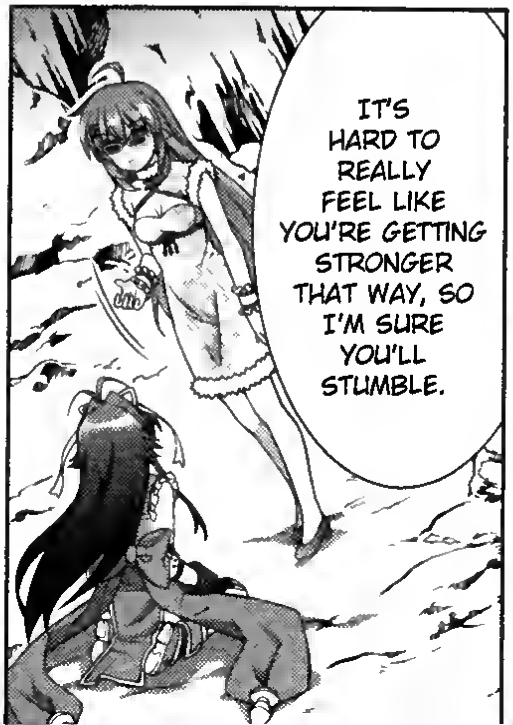
MAKE SURE YOU WATCH YOUR MASTER'S CAREFULLY BUNNY-SAN AND STAR MEAT BUN-SAN.
STAR MEAT BUN!?
YES!
NOW, IS THAT ENOUGH OF A BREAK FOR YOU?
YOU TWO DON'T NEED TO OVERTHINK THINGS TOO MUCH~ JUST GO FULL POWER LIKE YOU ALWAYS DO!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
LITTLE BY LITTLE I'LL GET THE TIMING AND DISTANCE DOWN.
WE'LL GET IN THERE EVEN-TUALLY!
NOW THEN... I WONDER IF LADY RIO'S GROUP IS TAKING THESE TRIALS SERIOUSLY?

HAAAH!

UUURGH~!
RIO-CHAN'S GIVING IT HER ALL, BUT... COACH NOVE'S AMAZING!
SHE'S DEALING WITH RIO-SAN LIKE IT'S CHILD'S PLAY...
NYAA!
ULTIMATE SKILL...!

IF THIS WERE A THREE-DOWN MATCH, THAT WOULD'VE BEEN A LOSS BY KO.
AUGH ...!
THE VERSATILITY AND POWER OF YOUR TECHNIQUES ARE TOP-NOTCH. ON TOP OF THIS, THE UNCOMMON MOVEMENTS OF LUFEN'S MARTIAL ARTS ARE DIFFICULT FOR OPPONENTS TO DEAL WITH, WHICH MAKES YOU FORMIDABLE.
HOWEVER, DURING THE MATCH WITH THE POPULAR CONTESTANT HARRY, A LARGE NUMBER OF CONTESTANTS WITNESSED THOSE SELF-SAME TECHNIQUES.

YOU MUST BECOME FASTER AND SHARPER... YOU HAVE TO RAISE THE SPEED AND ACCURACY OF YOUR TECHNIQUES.
WITH RESEARCH, THE GAPS IN THOSE TECHNIQUES COME INTO VIEW... JUST LIKE NOW.


IT'S HARD TO REALLY FEEL LIKE YOU'RE GETTING STRONGER THAT WAY, SO I'M SURE YOU'LL STUMBLE.

FOR THAT REASON, YOU'LL HAVE TO RETURN TO THE BASIC, PLAIN, BORING REPETITION TRAINING EVEN MORE THAN BEFORE.

DO YOU WANT TO END UP AS THE KIND OF COMPETITOR THAT'S JUST A FLASHY ODDITY? OR WOULD YOU RATHER STRIVE TO BE A TRUE "MAGICAL MARTIAL ARTIST"?
ONLY BY RACKING UP A LOT OF BASIC PRACTICE TIME WILL THAT PATH OPEN UP TO YOU.
...YES MA'AM!
H-HUH? BUT WHY ARE YOU IN CHARGE OF THE TRIAL, COACH ...?
...UH, WELL, I'LL EXPLAIN LATER...
YOU'RE NEXT!
O... OKAY!

BUT THERE IS A SINGLE THING YOU'RE LACKING.
RIGHT NOW YOU'RE ALREADY PLENTY STRONG... AND I'M SURE YOU'LL ONLY CONTINUE TO GET STRONGER.
NOW... I'LL GO AHEAD AND PUT THIS ON THE TABLE.
AND THAT'S TRUE "STRENGTH".
N-NO... THAT'S NOT WHAT I...
SURPRISED? THAT FACE SAYS "I'M PRETTY PROUD OF MY DESTRUCTIVE FORCE".

YOUR "POWERFUL" TECHNIQUES ARE ONLY SO AS COMPARED TO THE AVERAGE COMPETITOR.
THE TRUE POWER SLEEPING IN YOUR FISTS
REACHES A PLACE FAR BEYOND YOUR IMAGINATION.

AND I'LL SHOW YOU THE PROOF OF THAT RIGHT HERE AND NOW.
THAT STANCE IS THE HEGEMON STYLE'S...
NYA!

SKY
SEVERING
FIST!

IT JUST GOES TO SHOW YOU'RE STILL LINGERING AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE HEGEMON STYLE.

BUT I DON'T THINK THE TRUE ESSENCE OF "SKY SEVERING" LIES HERE.

THIS IS THE "SKY SEVERING FIST" YOU USE... WITH TRAINING, YOU CAN GET THE TECHNIQUE UP TO THIS LEVEL.

RIGHT NOW, TO GET TO THE TRUE ESSENCE OF YOUR HEGEMON STYLE... AND THE SKY SEVERING... HM?

YOU WERE, UM... BEAUTIFUL.
SHUT UP! BUT THANKS ANYWAY!
THAT'S THE PROBLEM!? NOW, OF ALL TIMES!?
I'M JUST FINDING IT HARD TO BELIEVE THAT COACH WAS THE ONE HOLDING THIS TRIAL...
UH... WHAT'S WRONG? DID I INJURE YOU SOMEWHERE?
AH, NO...
AS YOU SAID, I'D LIKE TO TAKE UP TRAINING... TO GET CLOSER TO THE TRUE ESSENCE OF THE SKY SEVERING.
I LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR GUIDANCE! COACH!
YOU BET!

I SUDDENLY GOT SEPARATED FROM EVERYONE
CRAP
Three Caverns "Heart" Route
Dark Star Corridor

TAO~! CORONA-CHA~N! OTTO-SA~N! WHERE IS EVERYBODY!?

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